

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 21st August 2016

Two Metres Contest

The IRTS 2 metres Counties Contest, in which the EI and GI counties are multipliers, takes place on Sunday next, 28th August from 2pm to 4pm local time. There are separate sections in this contest for portable and fixed stations, low power and high power, as well as an FM Only section for single ops and an SWL section. Note that the portable sections are for field-day type operations, so those entering one of the portable sections should review the requirements for portable section entries in the contest rules.

To ensure everyone gets a fair chance of calling CQ, there is a special 'QSY Rule' to the effect that after any QSO that is initiated by you making a CQ call, you must QSY to another channel (FM), or by at least 3 kHz (SSB), before calling "CQ" again, while the station answering the CQ call has the frequency for one more contact.

See www.irts.ie/contests for more details.

MREN Activation of Blacksod Lighthouse 2016.

Members of The Mayo Radio Experimenters Network will activate the Blacksod Lighthouse, Blacksod on Saturday and Sunday the 20th/21st of August 2016 as part of the 19th Annual International Lighthouse & Lightship weekend. The Callsign will be EI0M on this occasion and the international designator for Blacksod Lighthouse is IE 0008, the locator is IO44XC and WAI/WAM – F65. We will be on all bands and modes Digi and SSB from 6m to 80meters from midday on Saturday to Sunday evening. Have a listen out for us. For more info on the International Lighthouse & Lightship weekend please see: www.illw.net/ and our own account of past activation's check out our website: ei7mre.org

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

SEARG will be running a "Learn CW" course on Monday 12th September from 7pm to 10pm in the South East Maker Space workshops (old Munster Express print works), Thomas Hill, Waterford with two further classroom sessions on 19th & 26th September at the same location.

The course will be a combination of techniques for learning CW with follow up practice CW sessions live on air. In addition, we'll be teaching how to solder components to PCB (for those with no experience) followed by the building of a QRP CW transceiver (A Pixie Kit Unit which will be supplied)

The course is intended to accommodate all abilities. The course is free to SEARG & SEMS members and €5 to non-members. Anyone interested is asked to contact Sean EI2HZB on 083 1379764 or by email to proffice@searg.ie as soon as possible please.

The August meeting of SEARG will take place in the Roanmore Social and Sports Centre, Cleaboy Road, Waterford on Monday 29th August at 8pm New members or anyone interested in learning more about amateur radio are very welcome to attend.

More information about SEARG and its activities, you are welcome to attend any club meeting. Check out our website www.searg.ie and follow us on Facebook and on Twitter.

Endurance Week - 100th Anniversary of Shackleton's Endurance Rescue 24th to 31st August

From 24th to 31st August, this epic and heroic rescue will be commemorated during 'Endurance Week' with special events and activities by radio amateurs around the world. During the week the Special Callsign GB100E (to be confirmed) will be on air along with many stations connected with polar exploration and research. More information available on www.RedKiteRadio.org.uk

DiGIcon16

DiGicon will be held on 24th September, 10.30am to 5pm Admittance is £3

The Venue is Portadown Golf Club, 192 Gilford Road, Portadown BT63 5LF.

The days agenda will consist of talks on digital voice and other digital modes. Attractions include Catering, Lectures/Seminars, RSGB Book Stall

DX News

A number of Japanese operators will be active from Bhutan between 22nd August and 27th August. Look for the callsigns A52ARJ, A52LSS, A52EQW and A52AEF.

Activity will be on all bands 80m to 10m CW, SSB and digital.

JD1YBV will be QRV from Ogasawara Island from 23rd to 28th August. This is to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of the Japan Amateur Radio Development Association. QSL Manager is JA1HQG.

Tom KC0W has been operating as T2COW for the past month from Tuvalu. He now moves on to Vanuatu where he will sign YJ0COW until 21st September. As usual he will be operating on CW only and QSLs go directly to his home call.

Two Japanese amateurs will sign VP6J from Pitcairn Island from 25th August to 3rd September. They will be active on 160m to 10m CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL directly to JF2MBF. This activation will be followed by visits to several other Pacific islands between now and mid-October.

North Cork Radio Group – Rally Next Sunday 28th August

NCRG will be holding this-years annual rally next Sunday 28th August 2016 at The Commons Express Inn, Commons Road, Blackpool, Cork. Doors open at 11am and tickets are €5 per person, children under 16 years are free. This promises to be a very special event and everyone is welcome.

Items for inclusion in next week's Radio News can be submitted via e-mail to "newsteam /at/ irts / dot / ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Urgent news items for the radio news may be telephoned to the radio news editor, Aidan, EI7JC on 085 7100511.

Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Thursday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

[C]